

these activities contribute not merely to the physical development of the children but also have a positive impact on psychological and mental development.

Vocational education to poor uneducated rural youth/women

434. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any policy for providing vocational education to the poor uneducated rural youth/women in the country particularly in the States of NER;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the effective measures being taken by the Government to create job opportunities by providing skilled/vocational education to the above categories?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALIASHRAF FATMI) (a) to (c) In pursuance of the National Policy on Education (NPE) 1986, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Vocationalisation of Secondary Education at + 2 level was formulated and is being implemented since 1987-88. While implementing the Scheme, priority is being given to the backward areas and also States in the North Eastern Region. Preference is also being given to the women specific vocational courses and to the introduction of skill based courses according to the felt needs.

SSA without Panchayati Raj Institutions

435. DR. E. M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that 'Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan' (SSA) is being implemented in certain States without involving the Panchayati Raj Institutions which are constitutionally empowered to look after the elementary education; and

(b) if so, what steps are contemplated by Government to involve and implement SSA through PRI Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) and (b) Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan emphasizes on decentralization and community ownership of schools. The Framework for Implementation of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan has been amended to provide for supervision and monitoring by Panchayati Raj Institutions, over its implementation.

Reservation for OBCs in teaching posts

436. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn that the Universities and Institutions which are fully funded by Government and are not implementing the policy of Reservation of 27 per cent for OBCs specially in teaching posts;

(b) if so, the number of universities and institutions found violating the Government policy and the action being taken against them;

(c) whether Government have issued any orders to UGC as well as to such universities and institutions to provide 27 per cent reservation in teaching posts; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) The provisions of Government of India's O.M. dated 13.8.1990 issued by the Department of Personnel & Training (DOP&T) regarding reservation for the OBCs, as finally modified by O.M. dated 8.9.1993 are applicable to vacancies filled up by direct recruitment at entry level upto the level of Lecturer. The University Grants Commission (UGC) is responsible for implementation of the policy of the Central Government in the matter of recruitment to the teaching and non-teaching posts in Central Universities and institutions which are deemed to be universities receiving aid from the public funds other than minority institutions under Article 30(1) of the Constitution.